

PR02:399

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 23, 2002

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**GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES CALIFORNIA AMERICORPS'
FEDERAL AWARD FOR HOMELAND SECURITY**

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gray Davis today announced that California was awarded \$350,000 from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to develop new homeland security programs using AmeriCorps members.

“We don’t want to just be better prepared for emergencies, we want to prevent them,” Gov. Davis said. “These federal resources will help us do that.”

The proposal, a collaborative effort between the Governor’s Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) and the American Red Cross, will utilize Red Cross trained AmeriCorps members to help educate and prepare citizens throughout the state for disaster and terror-related emergencies.

Called California Safe CoRPS (Communities Ready and Prepared through Service), the proposal calls for 24 AmeriCorps members to serve in local relief agencies or volunteer organizations in three pilot regions: Los Angeles, San Francisco Bay Area, and Sacramento.

Through the program AmeriCorps members will:

- Recruit, train and engage 720 new community volunteers, primarily seniors, in homeland security and disaster/emergency preparedness and response-related service activities;
- Provide more than 24,000 individuals, families, and faith-based and community-based organizations with disaster/emergency preparedness and safety training and education; and
- Provide 300 faith-based and community-based organizations and businesses with continuity and contingency planning training and education.

CNCS awarded a total of \$10.3 million in competitive grants to 43 non-profit and public organizations in 26 states and the District of Columbia. Of that total, \$4.3 million will support homeland security efforts throughout the country through 16 different organizations utilizing 356 AmeriCorps members.

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